

NEIGHBORHOOD PRIORITIES

Group 12: North Cleveland Park – Forest Hills Ward 3

Summary of the neighborhood input collected through laptop computers at the Neighborhood Action Citizen Summit on November 20.

Major Themes

Commercial and Retail Improvements: Citizens want to increase and improve retail activity along Connecticut Avenue. They want more diverse retail, increased pedestrian traffic and more restaurants. Citizens want more retail businesses around the Van Ness Metro and improved traffic flow management and parking opportunities.

Elderly Services: This neighborhood includes a very high concentration of senior citizens. People expressed a desire for continued and increased services to seniors, especially related to health care and public safety.

Coordination with UDC: Citizens want more coordination between the neighborhood and the University of the District of Columbia, and greater investment in UDC. Citizens want UDC to be a better neighbor and work with neighborhood groups. Citizens want UDC to provide arts and cultural activities open to the neighborhood.

Neighborhood Beautification: Green spaces and trees should be maintained and preserved. Citizens want historic landmarks in the neighborhood to be identified and maintained.

Planning: Citizens want more input into the Office of Planning and to strengthen the capacity and commitment for neighborhood planning. Citizens warned against the dangers of unplanned development. They want to prevent over-development in residential areas and want to promote pedestrian friendly strategies due to traffic and construction. Citizens want to make sure that improvements in blighted neighborhoods do not come at the expense of healthy neighborhoods.

Specific Neighborhood Programs

- Focus on retail on Connecticut between Van Ness and Albemarle and around the Van Ness Metro station.
- Have UDC work with the neighborhood to provide arts and cultural activities.